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PROGRAM News And Commentary

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DAN RATHER: I'm Dan Rather with news and commentary on the CBS Radio Network.

A reporter makes a few telephone calls around Washington, New York and Boston to touch base with various political sources and this is what he hears.

When there's an intelligence gathering and foreign policy debacle of the magnitude of that in Iran, somebody's head may roll. Somebody may lose his job over it, maybe several somebodies. That is if the pattern of most twentieth century White House operations holds. That is to say, most Presidents faced with a policy and intelligence failure on this scale would shake up their circle of close advisers and probably shake one or more of them out.

The question now is whether Jimmy Carter will fit that pattern. There are some people in positions to know, which isn't to say they do know, who say they expect that he will, and some of them expect that he will move CIA Director Stansfield Turner out.

Turner, a recently retired Admiral, was an Annapolis classmate of Mr. Carter's. He has been under increasing criticism from within and without his agency from people who claim he is simply not sophisticated enough, his mind not settled enough to run a first-class world-class intelligence operation.

Turner's supporters claim he has been superb in the job, Iran notwithstanding, and that he still has President Carter's unwavering support.

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